

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for testing and certifying an aspect of a device comprising:

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applying a test to an aspect of the device;

gathering results of the test;

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comparing the results to one or more pre-determined standards;

certifying the device and publishing test results in an online results catalog if the results meet or exceed the one or more pre-determined standards; and

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communicating a failure to a product vendor if the results do not meet or exceed the one or more pre-determined standards.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of applying the test comprises applying a pre-defined test to the aspect of the device.

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3. The method of claim 2, wherein the product vendor chooses the pre-defined test from an online tests catalog.

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4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of applying a test comprises applying a user-specified test to the aspect of the device.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein user-specified tests are incorporated into an online test catalog of pre-defined tests for review and use by other vendors.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of applying the test comprises applying a performance test to a computing device.

10 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising licensing a certification logo to a product vendor if the results meet or exceed the one or more pre-determined standards.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of communicating the failure to the vendor comprises transmitting an e-mail or facsimile to the vendor indicating the failure.

15 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising testing and certifying additional aspects of the device.

10. A method of allowing a user to test and certify a device comprising:

submitting a product to be tested to a testing entity;

5 identifying a test to be performed on the product;

allowing the testing entity to perform the test on the product;

receiving a communication from the testing entity indicating testing results;

10 reviewing testing results in an online results catalog and displaying a certification logo in connection with the product if the product passes the test; and
improving the product if the product fails the test.

15 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of submitting the product comprises submitting a network or computing device to the testing entity.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein a product vendor chooses a test from an online tests
20 catalog.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of identifying the test comprises identifying a pre-defined or user-specified test.

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14. The method of claim 13, wherein user-specified tests are incorporated into an online tests catalog for review and use by vendors.

15. The method of claim 10, further comprising allowing the user to configure parameters of
5 the test prior to testing.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of receiving the communication comprises receiving an e-mail or facsimile from the testing entity indicating test results.

10 17. The method of claim 10, further comprising allowing the user to specify additional tests to be performed on the device.

18. A system for testing and certifying a device comprising:

a web server providing a web site for allowing a product vendor to specify one or more tests to be performed;

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a testing entity for performing the one or more tests on the product;

a certification server in communication with the web server, the certification server including an online results catalog for storing product information and tests results relating to the product; and

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a communications interface connected to the web server for allowing one or more remote users to access the web server.

15 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the product vendor chooses a pre-defined test from an online tests catalog.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein the one or more tests comprises a user-specified test applied to an aspect of the device.

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21. The system of claim 20, wherein user-specified tests are incorporated into an online tests catalog of pre-defined tests for review and use by other vendors.

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22. The system of claim 18, wherein the testing entity certifies the product if the product passes the one or more tests.

23. The system of claim 22, further comprising a certification logo licensed from the testing
5 entity to the product vendor if the product passes the one or more tests.

24. The system of claim 18, wherein the online catalog further comprises a certification
database for storing certification information and a product database for storing product
information.

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25. The system of claim 18, wherein the online catalog is accessible via the Internet.

26. A method for testing and certifying Voice-over-IP (VoIP) capabilities of a device comprising:

connecting the device between two end nodes;

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establishing a VoIP call between the two end nodes and across the device;

testing voice quality of the call using a voice quality tester;

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comparing tests results to pre-determined standards;

certifying the product as having VoIP capability and storing testing results in an on-line results catalog of the results meet or exceed the pre-determined standards; and

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communicating a failure to the product vendor if the results do not meet or exceed the pres-determined standards.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein a product vendor chooses a pre-defined test from an online tests catalog.

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28. The method of claim 26, wherein the step of testing voice quality comprises applying a user-specified test to the device.

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29. The method of claim 26, further comprising applying PESQ and PSQM algorithms to the device to determine voice quality during the call.

30. The method of claim 26, further comprising generating traffic across the device using one
5 or more traffic generators prior to testing voice quality.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising enabling Quality-of-Service (QoS) features of the device prior to testing voice quality.

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